

Hot August Night—the Moon is bright — the Journey Begins!!

Just before sunset, we noticed some motion in one of the nests in the hatchery. Soon one head, then another head was spotted. Then suddenly all the motion stopped. The hatchlings have broken out of their eggs and begun to push each other up from their nest two feet below the top of the sand. It's as if they are now resting to regain some strength, for they know they will have a long important swim tonight. The moon rises over the ocean and ascends higher into the sky. Movement in the nest begins again and suddenly there is an explosion of 100 loggerhead turtle hatchlings as they scramble over each other in their rush to the water's edge. We stand to the side and watch the tiny reptiles rush down the beach, as they follow the moon's light and get whisked away by the ebbing tide. They will swim all night and into the following days, the Gulf Stream is their goal. How many will make it?



As the cooperating association for Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge, the SEWEE Association supports the educational and biological mission of the Refuge. We provide financial support to programs and personnel and volunteers for the acclaimed Sewee Earth Stewards program.

We are a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization, so all donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Any questions about the SEWEE Association may be directed to our organization via mail, phone or email. See below for how to contact us.



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SEWEE Association, Inc.

PO Box 1131
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29465-1131

Phone: 843-884-7539
Fax: 843-971-9610
Email: sewee.association@earthlink.net

Adopt A Turtle Nest

Supporting the nest relocation program of
Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge



SEWEE Association, Inc.

The Cooperating
Association for
Cape Romain NWR

How does Cape Romain protect Loggerhead Sea Turtles

Cape Island, the northernmost barrier island in Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge, receives the highest annual density of Loggerhead Sea Turtle nests north of Florida. In 2002, there were 878 nests created on this barrier island. Refuge staff and volunteers patrol the beach every day during the nesting season, locate nests created the previous night, and relocate a majority of these nests to protected hatcheries (in 2002, 500 nests were relocated). This relocation process is necessary to ensure the highest hatch rate possible because of nest predation by raccoons and erosion or high tide intrusion into the nests.



Inspection of eggs as nest is moved

So, how can I help with this protection process?

You can help with the process through the **Adopt a Turtle Nest** program. Cape Romain needs supplies to build the hatcheries

and funds to maintain the equipment used for patrolling the beach. They want to have a person assigned to monitor the beach on Bulls Island as well as more nests are occurring there than in the past. By Adopting a Nest you will make more funds available for this project.

As a participant in the program, you will receive two updates during the season on the progress for the year. One update will be sent in late August as the nesting period is drawing to a close and the other update will be sent near the end of the year, once all the data for the season has been recorded.

You can **Adopt a Turtle Nest** at two levels. As a supporter, you will also become a member of the SEWEE Association and receive newsletters of the events of the Sewee Visitor & Environmental Education Center. As a benefactor, you will receive all this as well as your choice of our beautiful custom designed Cape Romain NWR Turtle T-shirt or a Sea Turtle stuffed toy and book.

Just complete the attached form, and send your payment to the SEWEE Association.

Make a difference today — protect our Loggerheads!!

I want to help our Loggerhead Turtles!!!

Sign me up as:

☐ Turtle supporter—\$20 each

Quantity	Total Donation
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

☐ Turtle benefactor—\$30 each

___ I want a Sea Turtle Toy or

___ T-shirt please! (Circle

size)

YM YL AS AM AL AXL

AXXL

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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☐ Additional Donation

Total: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email address _____

Method of Payment

☐ Check

☐ Visa

☐ Cash

☐ MasterCard

Credit Card # _____

Exp. date _____

Signature _____

Return this form with payment to:

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